

April 28, 2014

Julie Brewer
Chief, School Programs Branch
Policy and Program Development Division
Child Nutrition Division
Food and Nutrition Service
P.O. Box 66740
St. Louis, MO 63166-6740

Re: Docket No. FNS-2014-0010 – Proposed Rule on School Wellness Policies

Dear Ms. Brewer:

On behalf of our 157,000 members, we are pleased to comment on the Food and Nutrition Service's (FNS') proposed rule governing the content of school wellness policies required for local educational agencies (LEAs) participating in the National School Lunch Program and/or the School Breakfast Program. We offer these comments in response to your Federal Register notice of February 26, 2014 (79 FR 10693).

We are generally pleased with the rule FNS has proposed. We are especially pleased that, among school health professionals LEAs are encouraged to include on their local school wellness policy team(s), dentists were identified by name.

A dental perspective will help ensure school wellness policies appropriately balance the nutritional benefits of consuming certain foodstuffs and the risk for tooth decay. It will also help ensure school policies promote lifelong mouth healthy behaviors, such brushing twice a day, flossing once a day, limiting consumption of sugary snacks and beverages, and seeing the dentist regularly.

We applaud you for proposing a rule that recognizes the inextricable link between oral and overall health and well-being. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Robert J. Burns at 202-789-5176 or burnsr@ada.org.

Sincerely,

/s/

Charles H. Norman, D.D.S.
President

/s/

Kathleen T. O'Loughlin, D.M.D., M.P.H.
Executive Director

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